

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present application. This supplemental amendment is being filed to supplement the previous Response to Office Action filed by Applicants on 12/28/2004. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

**I. General Comments**

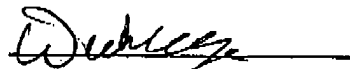
Certain claims have been presented to further clarify and distinguish the invention recited therein from the teachings of the cited reference, and in particular to emphasize that the invention recited in such amended claims is directed to a technique for utilizing unused processing power, that currently exists in vehicles having data processing capabilities, in a generalized distributed computing environment. The cited reference merely teaches an ability to remotely monitor vehicle characteristics. In addition, because of the unique nature of a vehicle, with its associated safety concerns when using processing power that is normally used to manage the safe operation of a vehicle, certain restraints on use of a vehicle's processing power – such as only using such processing power when the vehicle is idle – ensures that safety is not compromised.

**II. Conclusion**

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited reference and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: 1/21/05

Respectfully submitted,



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